

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00 IO-13 OIC-02 /054 W
-----062197 262125Z /17

P R 261948Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2075
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMCONSUL CURACAO
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 3916

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID EFINVE
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON CARIBBEAN COOPERATION

REF (A) STATE 100012 (B) STATE 101289

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON MINISTER OF STATE HECTOR HURTADO
APRIL 25 TO DISCUSS STATUS OF CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.
DRAWING ON REFTELS, AMBASSADOR REVIEWED DEVELOPMENT OF
CARIBBEAN GROUP EXERCISE OVER THE COMING TWO OR THREE
MONTHS, EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED COOPERATION
AND CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE US AND VENEZUELA. HE
DISCUSSED PREPARATORY WORK UNDERTAKEN BY WORLD BANK TEAMS,
AND THREE MAJOR PROPOSALS OF REGIONAL CHARACTER DESCRIBED
IN PARAS 5, 6 AND 7 OF REF A.

2. HURTADO WAS AWARE OF BOTH THE JUNE 19 MEETING IN
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PARIS AND THE DONORS MEETING SCHEDULED MAY 16. HE
SAID VENEZUELA WOULD PARTICIPATE IN BOTH MEETINGS,
BUT THAT THE PERSONALLY WAS NOT GOING TO PARIS FOR THE
MAY MEETING. AS HE HAS DONE BEFORE, HURTADO ONCE MORE
ARGUED THE MERITS OF A VERY INFORMAL APPROACH TO CARIBBEAN
COOPERATION, RATHER THAN A STRUCTURED APPROACH.

3. HURTADO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR OUR VIEW THAT THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK COULD AND SHOULD PLAY A BROADER ROLE IN CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT (STATE 101289). HE ARGUED THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE CDB TO ENGAGE IN CERTAIN TYPES OF ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF MEMBER COUNTRIES, POSSIBLY INCLUDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A TRUST FUND. HE RECALLED A SIMILAR PROBLEM INVOLVING THE CENTRAL AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IN 1974. AT THAT TIME IT WAS APPARENTLY DECIDED THE CENTRAL AMERICAN BANK COULD ADMINISTER A TRUST FUND FINANCING ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF MEMBER COUNTRIES. SINCE THE CHARTERS OF THE TWO BANKS ARE SIMILAR, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE CDB TO DO THE SAME THING. HE AGREED TO DISCUSS THE IDEA INFORMALLY WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS AT GEORGETOWN, BUT OPINED THAT PM WILLIAMS OF TRINIDAD WOULD OPPOSE A BROADER ROLE FOR THE BANK.

VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA03916
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780179-0068
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780417/aaaaanhx.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d2cc2fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 100012, 78 STATE 101289
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2847350
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON CARIBBEAN COOPERATION
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, XL, VE, US, (HURTADO, HECTOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d2cc2fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014